Tuomas Hyttinen
1503589
UNIX Operating systems
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I decided to do my UNIX course project on the default subject of building a database with a web accessible front end. Quite frankly this was because I couldn't think of a viable project myself in time. In fact, the starting phase seemed a little overwhelming since I didn't have very much prior experience with Linux or Web programming.

Now that I have finished the work on the application, I must say that rarely have I ever learned this much during only a few weeks.

My goals for this project were a little vague at first, but as I worked on it, it become more apparent to me what I wanted out of it. Of course installing the database, configuring it properly, setting rules to iptables and tweaking user permissions for certain files and directories etc. would teach me quite a number of things about Linux (in particular how to use **man** pages to your advantage), but in addition I got a quite thorough express course on PHP and JavaScript, both of which I was unfamiliar with beforehand.

Things that I took with me from this project include:

- UNIX file permissions and their implications to applications
- Installing a database and setting it up for remote use
- Installing and configuring a web server (Apache2) in AWS even though I didn't end up using it in the final product
- Getting more comfortable with the Linux shell
- Basics of PHP
- Basics of JS

My configuration is further explained in the documentation, but the main components are:

- MySQL server running on an AWS cloud instance
- PHP scripts at edunix.metropolia.fi that receive user input and send queries to the DB server for processing
- HTML front end spiced up with light JavaScript to provide a GUI to the database

The web store is located at http://users.metropolia.fi/~tuomahy/onlineshop/

List of users and passwords is included in the documentation.